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CFI Bulletin

INSTITUT CANADIEN DU FILM
Collège Jean-de-Brébeuf,
3200 Chemin Ste-Catherine, Montréal 26

CANADIAN FILM INSTITUTE
Head Office,
1762 Carling Avenue, Ottawa 3

Art Through Film Reaching Wider Canadian Audiences

"It is not only the Kunsthistorisches Museum, the Louvre or the Tate Gallery which is likely to be inaccessible to the student living outside the main urban centres. It is his own National Gallery, sometimes any gallery at all. The art film can communicate a genuine art experience; not a substitute for actuality, but a priceless reflection of it, whether in a painting or a carving, a painter before his canvas, or a decorative detail in the stone frieze of a remote temple."*

Until comparatively recently, few films on art were available to Canadian borrowers apart from those distributed by foreign embassies, the larger art galleries and libraries. Because of the growing interest in films on art, the Canadian Film Institute established the Canadian Library of International Art Films in 1956. This was possible when the National Gallery arranged for the deposit of its collection of films with CFI. Including the Gallery Collection, films of the National Film Board and others, this Library comprised some 60 titles. In the recently published *Films on Art* catalogue, 232 films are described.

Not only has there been a remarkable increase in the number of films, but there has been a significant growth in the number of screenings of these films. For example, the number of bookings of National Gallery films during the last quarter of 1959 doubled those of the same period a year earlier. In July, 1960 it was possible to report that the number of screenings for the previous six months equalled those for the year ending September 30, 1959. And the flood of requests for these films during the current season suggests a further increase in the number of opportunities for communities from coast to coast to see these remarkable films.

"The best of them share one quality: through the art of cinema they extend our perception, they convey something of the excitement and intensity of artistic experience."* Not only do we have an unparalleled opportunity to view the works of the masters with the focussed eye of film makers, but we can observe the living artist. Many of these films are the work of men who are accomplished in the art of film: Haanstra, Resnais, Storck and others.

Such is the supply of films on art that it has become possible to present series of films on art in leading galleries across Canada. For example, the National Gallery Association has commenced its third season of special showings in Ottawa. At least two Galleries are presenting special series of programs designed for children. And high schools as well as universities, museums, libraries, art study groups, arts councils and galleries are using films from the Canadian Library of International Art Films.

Response to this growing need has only been possible through the efforts of the National Gallery and others who have deposited films for distribution through CFI. Despite the expansion of this library, the rapid increase in use of these films demands a further expansion of the collection and greater awareness of the problems of maintaining the present collection.

With this increase in the supply of first class art films, with the provision of additional copies of popular titles and of French versions of those now held only in English, it is possible to look toward the presentation of programs of four or five films (each with accompanying materials) to groups in every province, a project which might have remarkable results in increasing appreciation and stimulating interest in the fine arts in every part of Canada.

* (quotations from Introduction to *Films on Art and related subjects.*)

A NEW ART FILM CATALOGUE

A new catalogue, *Films on Art and related subjects,* has just been published by the Canadian Film Institute. Within its 48 pages, some 232 films available from CFI are described. Descriptions include country of origin, year of production, synopsis, producing company, director and rental charges.

Films are grouped under the following subject headings: architecture, architectural decoration and sculpture; art; art - galleries, museums, and institutes; art - study and teaching; arts and crafts; bookbinding; ceramics; design; experimental and abstract films; glass; leatherwork; painting and drawing; photography and cinematography; printing and engraving; tapestry; textile industry.

An alphabetical index facilitates the location of all films. Available from CFI - 25c.

The Library and Information Service of the Canadian Film Institute would like to thank the following for their donations of books, periodicals, newspaper clippings and stills:
Miss Olive Budd; Mrs. Sheila Kahan; London Public Library; Mr. Gerald Pratley; Mr. Dean Walker; Mr. Douglas S. Wilson.

LE FILM D'ART

Les premiers films d'art, produits avant la seconde guerre mondiale, se présentaient surtout comme des documentaires "artistiques" dont le principal souci était d'instruire le spectateur. A partir de 1946, le film d'art a connu un essor considérable, surtout en Belgique (avec Paul Haesaerts), en Italie (avec Luciano Emmer), puis en France (avec Resnais et autres). Aux intentions strictement historiques et documentaires (tel le film *De Renoir à Picasso,* d'Henri Storck) est venu s'ajouter un souci pédagogique et didactique (le film *The Drawings of Leonardo da Vinci* est un exemple de ces réalisations où l'étude critique occupe le premier plan). Puis, peu à peu, le film d'art se perfectionne et l'on arrive à des œuvres où domine ce qu'Henri Lemaître appelle "l'intention poétique" (v.g. *Van Gogh,* d'Alain Resnais). Le réalisateur n'essaie plus seulement de présenter un album de photographies; "il s'agit de créer, par le moyen de l'animation cinématographique, l'univers vivant que l'artiste a inscrit dans son oeuvre par les moyens qui lui sont propres". De la conjonction de la peinture et du cinéma naît une nouvelle oeuvre d'art, autonome.

Occupant une place tardive dans l'histoire du cinéma, le film d'art s'est par la suite développé considérablement. Une enquête menée par l'Unesco en 1951 révèlait que 710 films d'art avaient été réalisés dans 30 pays. Depuis, le film d'art a continué à progresser en nombre et en qualité.

REFERENCES

Parmi les ouvrages consacrés au film d'art. il convient de signaler l'excellente étude d'Henri Lemaître, *Beaux-Arts et Cinéma* (coll. 7e Art, éd. du Cerf, 1952). André Bazin, le critique français qui a exercé le plus d'influence, a aussi publié deux articles très importants sur ce sujet: "Peinture et Cinéma" - "Un film bergsonien: Le Mystère Picasso". Ces articles sont réunis dans le volume *Qu'est-ce que le cinéma? II. Le cinéma et les autres arts* (Coll. 7e Art, éd. du Cerf, 1959).

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Correlieu

BUREAU MONTREALAIS DE L'INSTITUT CANADIEN DU FILM

Le bureau montréalais de l'Institut Canadien du Film sera inauguré officiellement dans un avenir prochain. Toutefois, ce bureau est actuellement en opération: il peut assurer la distribution de ses films, répondre aux demandes de renseignements et servir d'intermédiaire pour la réservation des films distribués par le bureau-chef à Ottawa.

Films en français

Le bureau de Montréal disposent de plus de 250 films en langue française pour distribution dans la région montréalaise. Ces films portent sur les sujets suivants: affaires internationales, agriculture, arts, aviation, éducation, industrie - sciences appliquées, pays - tourisme, santé - hygiène, sécurité - bien-être, sports - loisirs, travail, zoologie.

La majorité des films ont été produits au Canada, en Grande-Bretagne, en Australie, aux Pays-Bas, en Nouvelle Zélande, en France.

Films en anglais

Afin de faciliter la distribution des films en langue anglaise dans la région montréalaise, une quarantaine de films sont placés en dépôt à la succursale et ils sont renouvelés à tous les deux mois. Ainsi, les Montréalais peuvent plus facilement se procurer ces films et ils n'ont pas à payer les frais de transport.

Les films actuellement disponibles, jusqu'au 10 janvier 1961, sont particulièrement destinés aux hôpitaux et aux industries.

Listes

Une liste complète, donnant la description et indiquant les frais de location de chaque film en françois que la succursale de Montréal distribue, sera bientôt mise en circulation. Elle sera envoyée gratuitement à tous ceux qui en font la demande.

De plus, la liste des films en anglais actuellement disponibles est distribuée à toutes les personnes qui le désirent.

Renseignements

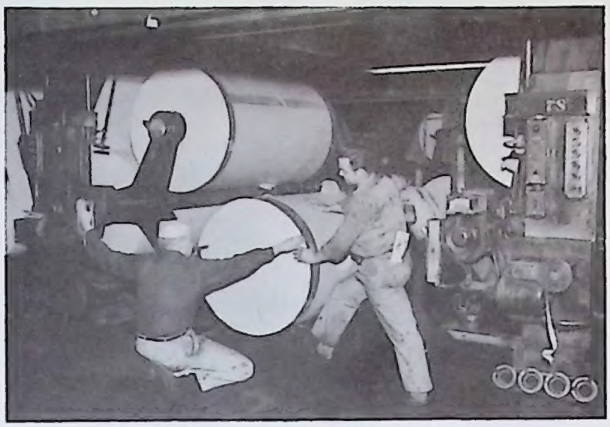
La succursale de Montréal possède une copie de la liste de tous les films distribués par le bureau-chef à Ottawa. En attendant l'impression d'un catalogue complet, nous croyons que cette liste peut être d'une grande utilité pour les demandes de renseignements. Elle permet d'indiquer les titres de films disponibles au bureau-chef; de plus, dès qu'un nouveau film est acquis, il est ajouté à la liste qui est ainsi tenue à date.

Comme nous l'avons déjà signalé, la succursale peut servir d'intermédiaire entre le public et le bureau-chef pour les réservations de films. Elle se charge de transmettre la réservation seulement; les opérations subséquentes, envoi des films et paiement des frais de location, se font ensuite directement entre le demandeur et le bureau-chef.

Pour toute demande, il suffit de téléphoner à RE 1-7229, ou d'écrire à: Institut Canadien du Film, Collège Jean-de-Brébeuf, 3200 chemin Ste-Catherine ,Montréal 26.

CATALOGUE

L'institut Canadien du Film annonce la publication d'un nouveau catalogue: *FILMS ON ART AND RELATED SUBJECTS.* Ce catalogue donne la liste de tous les films d'art distribués par l'ICF; films déposés par la Galerie Nationale, l'Office National du Film et divers gouvernements. Prix: $0.25.



From New York University — **African Village**

Describes a village in Guineé, a nation on Africa's West Coast that has recently been granted independence from France. Communal life has changed little in over a thousand years. The primitive village is scarcely more than a collection of thatched huts in a jungle clearing. Although some clothes are European, weaving of homespun cloth is still widely practised. New opportunities for children under fourteen years are provided with the establishment of the first school. Film implies that the future belongs to the very young who are being trained to participate in the coming changes imposed from without. (Authentic music recorded in Africa)

17 minutes . sound . colour $180.00 . rental $10.00

From Thorne Productions — **Line and Art**

Using the phenomenon of line in nature and in man-made forms as a starting point, concepts of line as visual images are developed. The inherent beauty of line and its expressive qualities are explored in drawings, painting, and sculpture. Through excellent selections ranging from the primitive and the 'old masters' to the contemporary, the film emphasizes the artist's response to various media, indicates how form and volume can be evolved from line, and illustrates illusions of space and tension, as well as the infinite possibilities for innovation and interpretation through line. (Useful teaching aid in college art classes or advanced senior high)

11 minutes . sound . colour $110.00

Preview prints available in the New Year

FILMS FOR PURCHASE . . . .

FILM ASSOCIATES OF CALIFORNIA

A NEWSPAPER SERVES ITS COMMUNITY

A Newspaper Serves Its Community

elementary, junior high community study, journalism one and one-quarter reels color $135, b & w $70.

SYNOPSIS

The film follows the story of Jomar, a new baby elephant for the zoo. The editor assigns a reporter photographer to cover the story. We follow its progress from city room, to composing room, to press room, and to its final appearance in the newspaper.

Farmer Don and the City

primary, middle elementary community studies, social studies one reel color $110, b & w $60.

SYNOPSIS

All of us depend upon the farmer to grow the food we eat. The farmer depends upon people in the city to supply him with many of the things he needs. The farmer sells his crop in the city and spends his money there, giving work to city people. People in the city and people on the farm help each other.

A Community Keeps House

primary, middle elementary social studies, language arts one reel color $110, b & w $60

SYNOPSIS

Our community is a clean and healthy place in which to live because everyone helps to keep it that way. We hire trained workers who use special machines to help us keep our streets, parks, schools, and other public buildings clean and attractive. Our rubbish is buried, our trash is burned, and our dirty water is carried away by sewers. But all the workers and all the machines can't do this job alone. Your help is needed.

From: C-B. Educational Films . . . . . .
SPEECH PREPARATION

A film intended to teach the basic steps in speech preparation, applying them to important contemporary material, so that they will be clear and practical for the student.

16mm. 15 minutes black & white

The price is $95.00. Discussion Guide to accompany film. Available for preview from - Canadian Film Institute.

BEGINNING SPANISH

A series of four films with related tapes and teachers' Guide. The series follows the functional approach rather than the grammatical, and scenes and experiences familiar to the students are used.

The first film in the series is available for preview from Canadian Film Institute.

16mm. 1 minutes each black & white

The price for the set with tapes and Teacher's Guide is $360.00. The films without tapes are $350.00 Individual films are $90.00. The set of four tapes sell for $15.00.

News from CFI Library and Information Service

Special Film Lists

Lists have been prepared describing films available from CFI covering specific subjects. Of these, 24 are still available on request. All the films lists are at present under complete revision and will be re-grouped to provide comprehensive coverage of related subjects. The following are now in preparation:

agriculture — conservation — music — sales training — sports

News of further revisions will appear in later issues of the Bulletin. If lists of films on specific subjects are required by Institute members, these can be prepared. We would welcome any sugestions for lists.

Union Card Catalogue: TITLE CARD INDEX

This is a request for YOUR catalogues or lists of films. We are compiling a FILM TITLE CARD INDEX which will eventually contain information on every film available in Canada. Please help to keep *us* up-to-date with your current literature.

DON'T THROW IT AWAY PLEASE . . .

Our ever-expanding Library can still use more of your books on the film, pocket editions, original novels of famous films, plays and scripts of films, and any periodicals old and new. Most welcome too are your newspaper clippings, especially from your local press, giving information on film personalities, directors and stars, film reviews and news, and stills.

A SPECIAL FILM . . . to be released January 1st. INTERVIEW WITH LINUS PAULING

Dr. Pauling speaks here of the duty of science to the citizen, and of the citizen's duty to understand some facts of science. This film interview is an exhilarating experience for any audience - 60 minutes of conversation with an outspoken citizen-scientist. At 59, Dr. Pauling sparkles with the joy of life. His lively manner, as well as what he says, explains why he pits his strength against the Bomb and anything else threatening the future of mankind. Heaped with honors by many nations, this Nobel prize winner has the attraction of a wise and fun-loving uncle.

"I like human beings - girls especially. I like animals, too. I like crystals and minerals." What Dr. Pauling dislikes is the thought that nuclear war will destroy it all. To maintain life the scientist must take a stand as a citizen, and citizens must learn some facts of science, says Dr. Pauling. Some of the facts he reveals will startle you. He talks of his amazing discoveries about the chemistry of the human body — "nobody had thought before that there could be abnormal molecules of proteins responsible for disease" -- and how they will benefit the sick in mind and body. But constantly he returns you to his theme that all discovery has hazards, that the good of mankind depends also on the alertness of scientist and layman alike.

16mm - Black and White - Running Time 60 Minutes - Rental: $6.00 - Produced by: NATIONAL FILM BOARD OF CANADA

The department's newest catalogue FILMS ON ART and related subjects is now available priced at 25c and mentioned elsewhere in this issue.

The following are CATALOGUES of FILMS now available from CFI:

ART and related subjects—Prepared and published by the Canadian Film Institute.

ASIA—Prepared and published by the Canadian Film Institute.

CITIZENSHIP—Prepared by the Canadian Film Institute. Published by the Canadian Citizenship Council.

EYE WITNESS SERIES (Coup d'Oeil)—Prepared and published by National Film Board.

FREE 16mm. SPONSORED FILMS (Directory of sources.) — Prepared and published by Crawley Films Limited.

INDUSTRY, 1959—Prepared by the National Film Board. Published by the Canadian Department of Labour: National Industrial Film Library.

NATIONAL FILM BOARD—1958 edition in French and English—1959 supplement in English—Prepared and published by the National Film Board.

NATIONAL HEALTH—1956 and 1957 supplement. Prepared and published by Department of National Health and Welfare.

NATIONAL MEDICAL & BIOLOGICAL—Prepared by the National Film Board. Published by Department of National Health and Welfare.

NEW ZEALAND—Prepared and published by the High Commissioner's Office for New Zealand.

SAFETY—Prepared and published by the National Safety Council.

SCOUTS—Prepared and published by the Boy Scouts Association.

UNITED KINGDOM—Prepared and published by the United Kingdom Information Service.

UNITED NATIONS—Prepared and published by the National Film Board

New catalogues in preparation:

AUSTRALIA—Prepared and published by the High Commissioner's Office for Australia.

CANADIAN CENTRE OF FILMS FOR CHILDREN—Prepared for Canadian Centre of Films for Children. Published by the Canadian Film Institute.

NATIONAL FILM BOARD—Prepared and published by the National Film Board.

NEW ZEALAND—Prepared and published by the High Commissioner's Office for New Zealand.

NETHERLANDS—Prepared and published by the Netherlands Embassy.

TOWN PLANNING—Prepared by the Canadian Film Institute. Published by the Community Planning Association.

UNITED STATES—Prepared and published by United States Information Service.

WELFARE - to be included in new HEALTH & WELFARE CAT.—Prepared and published by Department of National Health and Welfare.